

The Scientific Creationism

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Abstract

The subject of the present paper is the analysis of the origin of the universe, time, life, mankind and of the geological column, from the perspective of the creationist model, and through comparisons with the evolutionist model. The creationist model, as opposed to the evolutionist one, affirms that the universe and also the mankind were created directly and perfectly by the Creator. Since the very beginning, man has been endowed with a complete biological development, with the capacity to think, with freedom of choice, with certain abilities of survival, of using the land and its resources in conformity with the purpose intended by the Creator and with the ability to transmit ideas in written form over generations. The geological column has been formed during a single age, through a hydraulic catastrophic event (that corresponds to the Archeozoic Era) that has lead to the storing of sediments (Proterozoic; generated by the disintegration of mountains and rocks) and to the creation of all the fossil deposits, from the death of plants, animals and human beings trapped by the sediments.

Keywords: *the origin of the universe, time, life, mankind and of the geological column; the theory of creationism; the theory of evolutionism; the role of God in the creation of the world; Henry Morris.*

Introduction

The problem of origin is an important theme that can be found in all sciences (biology is concerned with the origin of life, linguistics deals with the origin of languages, chemistry with the origin of chemical elements and with the laws that govern chemical reactions, etc.), but is important as well on a personal level, since

¹ This paper is supported by the Sectorial Operational Programme Human Resources Development (SOP HRD), financed from the European Social Fund and the Romanian Government under the contract number SOP HRD /159/1.5/136077.

each individual wants to find out whence he derives his existence: either from the monkey or from God.² There are three main motivations that inform the importance of the original study: the scientific motivation (the knowledge of the laws and processes of nature and of their origin helps in the development of reason, leading to the formation of a mature scientific attitude towards the world and towards finding reasonable solutions to solving technological, social and personal problems), the sociological motivation (knowledge of the origins of races, cultures, moralities, traditions – in order to explain social aspects such as crime, wars, the dissolution of families, etc.) and the personal motivation (knowing one's origin leads to the development of self-identity and to the clarification of one's personal purposes).

Evolutionism and creationism are two models³ that deal with the origin of the world. These two models pretend to be correct, although these claims cannot be proven by scientific means. Science is defined as a “branch of study preoccupied by both the connected sets of the truth of demonstration, and by the systematically connected and classified factors, which, more or less correlated, lead to general laws, its practice including trustworthy methods for discovering pure truth inside the respective field”.⁴ Scientific practice is based on three main principles: the empirical principle (even since Antiquity, people have studied and observed things and the natural environment), the quantitative principle (the reality of science is measurable: length, volume, weight, etc.) and the principle of connectivity (methods of measurement, the precision of which tends to increase in time). The methods used in science are: observation,⁵ description (size, aspect, composition, density, etc.), analogy, classification, hypothesis, prediction, experimentation, generalization (leading to the formulation of definitions and general laws). These stages lead to the elaboration of scientific theories and laws. Scientific research is based on experimental observation and repeatability, but in the case of the problem of origin it is impossible to verify one's hypotheses, since

² “Nowadays, everybody is curious to know how man appeared: from monkey or has he been created from the beginning as a human being?” Ioan Străinescu, *Creacionismul științific* (Bucharest: Editura Universității din București, 2002), 2.

³ A model is “a conceptual framework, a system of orderly thinking, in which the thinker trying to correlate empirical data and even predicts certain data.” Henry Morris, *Creacionismul Științific: întocmit de cercetători și consultanții Institutului pentru Cercetări Creacioniste* (Bucharest: Societatea Misionară Română, 1992), 8.

⁴ Străinescu, *Creacionismul științific*, 16.

⁵ The observation is described as “the use of direct or indirect view, hearing, smell or taste.” *Ibidem*.

the original event cannot be repeated and hence observed scientifically.⁶ In the case of creationism, since creation does not take place now, it cannot be directly observed, therefore it becomes impossible to describe the process of creation. The philosophy of origins is based on rational belief and it is a choice that everyone has to make.

The subject of the present paper is the analysis of the origin of the universe, time, life, mankind and of the geological column from the perspective of the creationist model, and through comparisons with the evolutionist model in the footnotes. The first man taking a stand against the evolutionist doctrine that was being learned in schools was John C. Witcomb, who, together with Henry Morris, wrote a book published in 1961, for reaffirming the *ad litteram* veracity of the biblical account of Creation. The result of their work, published under the title *The Genesis Flood: The Biblical Record and its Scientific Implications*, has been a success, appealing to many adepts of creationism, who had organized numerous debates on this theme. In 1963 was formed the Creation Research Society at San Diego and in 1970 was established The Institute of Creation Research. Both have organized research activities, field studies for demonstrating creationist geological hypotheses and expeditions for the search of Noah's Ark.

The origin of the Universe

The creationist model considers that the universe was created by "the omnipotence of the Creator, in conformity with His omnipotence",⁷ and consequently, it stands by a supernatural, purposeful and completed ex Deo creation.⁸ This process of human creation by God is described by the Străinescu in his book *Creacionismul științific* like this: "He has planned and created the Universe, with its particles and molecules having their own laws and principles,

⁶ "Our theory of evolutionism has become one for which its error cannot be verified (it cannot be falsified) through possible observation." *Ibidem*, 4. "Belief in evolution represents an exact parallel with belief in special creation, both having concepts that their believers know to be true, but that until the present they cannot demonstrate as such." *Ibidem*.

⁷ Morris, *Creacionismul științific*, 17.

⁸ The evolutionist model does not believe in the existence of a creator or external agent, but considers that the universe evolves by itself to high levels of organization, being explained by natural processes and laws. There are several stages of evolution, from simple forms to complex forms: cosmic, biological, human and cultural. The evolution is defined as "an irreversible process, and directed essentially in time, in the course of which increase variety and a higher level of organization of its products." Străinescu, *Creacionismul științific*, 5. The evolution is naturalistic, independent, non-profit, directional irreversible, universal, continuous, ex nihilo. The founder of evolution is Charles Darwin and his followers are Marx, Mussolini, Hittler, Stalin, Dewey, due to the concept of natural selection and the struggle for existence.

with its stars and galaxies, with the plants and animals created on Earth, and, at the end, with mankind settled on the Earth from the beginning.”⁹ The matter and the laws governing the cosmos were created as they are now from the very beginning, they are conserved as constant, unvariable, without there being any evolution in the physical realm.¹⁰ The proof for their unvariability and stability is given by the fact that the laws of gravitation, thermodynamics, movement, the law of the conservation of energy are the same at all times. The postulates of scientific creationism pertaining to the origin of the universe are: the unlimited space, eternal time, universal connections, infinite complexity and enormous energy of the universe where implicated by an infinite, eternal, omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent First Cause, as the only possible explanation of the physical world as it is presented by modern science.

This model is applied universally, from above to below (from the Creator to the human being, from the perfection of creation to its deterioration and to the transformation of the process itself from one of creation and integration to one of conservation, of the maintaining of the basic systems created by the First Cause) and is upheld by universal conceptual systems as: relativity,¹¹ movement,¹² causality,¹³ the conservation of energy,¹⁴ the equivalence mass-energy,¹⁵ classification and order,¹⁶ universal harmony, interdependence with the environment, which has the role of conserving the created species and the equilibrium of nature.

Scientific creationism considers that all the systems of nature were created as such, each with a certain structure and a certain purpose.¹⁷ In order to confirm this, Morris, in the book *Creacionismul Științific: întocmit de cercetătorii și consultanții*

⁹ *Ibidem*, 35.

¹⁰ “Until now there is neither the smallest indication resulted from scientific observation that these entities would evolve in any way.” Morris, *Creacionismul Științific*, 18.

¹¹ The universe cannot generate itself, but rather it needs an external creator.

¹² The universe is dynamic, not static, it’s full of processes and phenomena, thereby consuming energy.

¹³ The Creator is the First Cause.

¹⁴ Energy conservation (energy can be converted from one form to another, but cannot be created or destroyed) is the most important law in terms of science. Everything in space and time is energy.

¹⁵ The biggest discovery of the twentieth century, is interconvertibility mass-energy.

¹⁶ Things can be classified into systems: for example: Mendeleev’s system, the system of biological taxonomy Linne, etc.

¹⁷ The evolutionism is not considering the existence of any purpose. It is “natural life, self-conscious, without a purpose before known, directional, universal and continuous.” Străinescu, *Creacionismul științific*, 5.

Institutului pentru Cercetări Creaționiste , brings into discussion the scientifically proven validity of the two laws of thermodynamics,¹⁸ that correspond to the basic principles of this model: the principle of conservation and that of natural disintegration¹⁹ – the first law of thermodynamics having the role to assure that the entities created fulfill their purpose, according to which the changes are harmful,²⁰ and the second law, the law of entropy. The creationist model, based on these laws, gives the following data on the universe: it is neither dead nor old, it has only between 9000 and 20000 years,²¹ it did not create itself,²² having had need of a Creator. The universe is defined as “a continuum of space, mass and time, therefore if one of these entities has had a beginning, the other two also must have begun simultaneously with it”.²³ The First Cause is the Creator of the universe and transcends it. The Earth, the moon and the stars were created each with a purpose, and each with its own structure. Earth is the only planet that can sustain life, since only it has its own hydrosphere and atmosphere.²⁴

The criticisms addressed to the evolutionist model, pertaining to this subject, are: the law of entropy applies to the whole universe, there cannot be any parts of the universe exempt from this law, because it is not a di-verse, but an uni-verse, and to consider that the law of entropy did not apply to the past enters in contradiction with their presupposition that the present is the key to understand the past and that it can offer explanation of the origin of things. In order that the evolutionist ideas be acceptable, there should exist a program that guides growth, a director code and a specific mechanism of conversion. The prediction that any

¹⁸ “The two laws of thermodynamics are, I suppose, accepted by physicists as probably the safest generalizations from experience that we have.” Morris, *Creaționismul Științific*, 39.

¹⁹ The evolutionary model is based on naturalistic principle of innovation and integration. This principle is in contradiction with the principle of entropy, which we find out in the creationist model. Some of the arguments that evolutionists use against this law are: the law of entropy in living systems is not valid in the universe (or elsewhere) because it probably has not worked in the past.

²⁰ In the theory of evolution this law is justified by mutation and natural selection. The mutation is seen as “a real structural change in a gene so that there occurs a change of character.” Străinescu, *Creaționismul științific*, 45. “The wide majority of mutations is harmful or even fatal for the individual in which they were expressed.” *Ibidem*, 46.

²¹ The evolutionists believe that the earth is old, it has around 3-30 billion years. There was a primitive earth, which at first had no oxygen. Today passing through several stages of evolution, has another favorable atmosphere existence of life.

²² “There is nothing in the present structure of natural law, which could explain the origin somehow.” Morris, *Creaționismul Științific*, 25.

²³ *Ibidem*.

²⁴ The evolutionists believe that there is a common ancestor, so everything has the same origin and structure.

modification of an organic or inorganic system augments the quality of the system is unreal. Thus, Morris affirms that the creationist model offers “the only satisfying means of explaining the wonderful structure of the solar system. It is not only that the different predictions of the creationist model remain standing, but there is no aspect of the sun or its planets that cannot be explained simply and directly as a product of a special creation followed by decay and catastrophes”.²⁵

The time and the geological column

The geological column is not seen by creationists as a proof of a slow evolution of life throughout the ages, as it is considered by evolutionists. Creationists consider it was formed during a single age, through a hydraulic catastrophic event (that corresponds to the Archaeozoic Era) that has led to the storing of sediments (Proterozoic) – generated by the disintegration of mountains and rocks – and to the creation of all the fossil deposits, from the death of plants, animals and human beings trapped by the sediments.²⁶ The animals that had lived in valleys and depressions formed the first strata of the deposits. Marine invertebrates lived at the bottom of the sea and were immobile therefore couldn't escape, their fossils being found inside the lower strata of the geological column. Marine vertebrates (fish) are found in strata above invertebrates (Paleozoic) because they could move. At a higher level, there are the amphibians and reptiles that have lived on dry land and were transported above the already formed strata. At the same level are also the remains of dry land plant life (Mesozoic). At a superior level we can find the fossil remains of mammals and birds, and higher still – herd animals. Human fossils are fewer because human beings could have run from the flooding waters and their bodies decomposed (Tertiary).

All the strata were formed rapidly, one immediately after the other, through hydraulic action, with the event forming them having had the character of a worldwide flood. A stratum is defined by Morris in his book ”Creaționismul Științific: întocmit de cercetătorii și consultanții Institutului pentru Cercetări

²⁵ Morris, *Creaționismul Științific*, 31.

²⁶ Evolutionists accept an uniformitarian interpretation of the history of Earth, geologic history and geologic time. James Hutton and Charles Lyell consider that this interpretation should be based on the principle that the present is key to understanding the past. Evolutionist geologists classify sedimentary deposits in function of the type of fossils found in them. This arrangement is called the geological column. For example, in the Precambrian Era, the sedimentary rocks were formed in 80 million years, their sedimentation took place 600 million years after that; 2.3 billion years ago the marine algae were formed, 500 million years ago – the fish, 16 million years ago – the mammals and 10 million years ago man has appeared.

Creationist” as “a set of hydraulic factors that cannot remain constant for a longer span of time”.²⁷ Therefore, the geologic column in its entirety was also formed in a short time, and in a continuous manner. This is proven by the most important components of the strata: the fossil deposits. The fossils are used in dating the rocks, assigning their geological age, distinguishing between different geological eras, and they all show signs of a rapid formation. They could not have been produced through a slow and uniform sedimentation process. All fossils were formed by passing through the following stages: compact burial, formation of the mold, lithification, cementation of the imprint, freezing and carbonization. Effects of catastrophes may be found throughout geologic strata dated to the Pleistocene Era: the formation of mountains, glaciations,²⁸ pluvial periods, volcanic activity (the volcanic craters being formed after the Flood).

Among the criticism directed against the evolutionist model, we can mention:

a) If evolutionists classify sedimentary deposits in function of the type of sediments found in them, in other words, by their stage of evolution from an epoch (the rocks are dated according to their fossil content), then the problem is that the duration of the different discontinuities between the fossils found in distinct sedimentary rocks cannot be measured. Therefore, the common ancestor, that evolutionists claim stands at the basis of the origin of mankind, animals and all living things, has not been found.

b) If evolutionists claim they have found that common ancestor²⁹ that is the intermediary link between reptiles and birds, the Archaeopteryx, it has been proven that this was not half reptile and half bird, but a bird with flying wings and feathers, and also that if it indeed has existed it should have been found earlier with 10 million years on the geologic column.

c) Rocks should not be dated according to the rocks adjacent to them (because it is not necessary that older rocks lie below the youngest), their appearance (the older rock is not necessarily tougher and more dense), their

²⁷ Morris, *Creationismul Științific*, 118.

²⁸ The evolutionists cannot explain the formation of glaciations: “Geologists and climatologists have been trying to explain, for a century, the recurrence of glaciations on a continental stage. There have been proposed theories after theories, but they either explain too much or too little. None of them can be considered satisfactory.” *Ibidem*, 130.

²⁹ Evolutionists admit the existence of similarities between different varieties of plants and animals, so they admit the existence of an intermediate and a common ancestor. These similarities have developed through random mutations and natural selection.

mineralogical content or structural particularities, nor according to the fossils found in them.

d) The present is not the key to the past, as evolutionists claim: for example, there are kinds of rocks that today are no longer being formed – metamorphic,³⁰ conglomerates, limestones, dolomites, silicate minerals – also there are deposits that stand as proof for quick formation in the past – coal, methane and crude oil.

The origin of human beings

The creationist model, contrary to the evolutionist one, affirms that man was created directly and perfect by the Creator, through a supernatural act of creation.³¹ Man is defined by Străinescu in his book “Creaționismul științific” as the “crown of creation”.³² Since the beginning, he has been endowed with a complete biological development, with the capacity to think, with intelligence, with freedom of choice, and also with certain abilities of survival, of using the land and its resources in conformity with the purpose intended by the Creator. The environment was also favorable: the climate was gentle and the soil was fertile. Both archeological findings and the study of the book of Genesis show that mankind had the ability to transmit ideas in written form through the generations (writing appeared 5000-6000 years ago in the Sumerian cities, which are the oldest cultural centers that have been found)³³ and that it held some kind of religious beliefs even 10,000 years ago. These are all proofs that man is different from the animals,³⁴ even if we see that, for example, the bees do have some kind of social organization, it is an organization based on instinct, or that anthropoid monkeys do exhibit behavior that shows signs of a rudimentary intelligence, they are able to think only when the object of their thought is present before them. If animals may think only when the object is present, human beings think independently of the physical presence of the object; they learn permanently, without the need to be rewarded constantly for their acts; they communicate their thoughts and feelings through articulated language and through writing. The diversity of languages has

³⁰ Metamorphic rocks are not formed today anymore, because their training process needs heat and enormous pressure, which requires abnormal conditions.

³¹ Evolutionists believe that man and anthropoid monkeys evolved from a common ancestor 30-70 million years ago. Modern man appears 3 million years ago. This common ancestor is unknown yet, but it was found a fossil hominid. As creationists sustain, this are fossils of apes, not of man.

³² Străinescu, *Creaționismul științific*, 113.

³³ “Sumerians created the oldest urban society with an advanced culture during the 4th millennium before Christ.” *Ibidem*, 112.

³⁴ Evolutionists believe that, to analyze human behavior one must study animal behavior. The man was a monkey who has refined his behavior.

appeared due to the splitting of the population in smaller sub-populations that had moved away from the center, developing their own socio-cultural systems. The multitude of spoken languages present on the globe and their evolution from an original language is not explained by the evolutionists.

Creationism admits the existence of primitive people, of cavemen,³⁵ who had practiced hunting and gathering, but does not admit it as a development stage in the universal history of mankind, but as a biological, social and cultural degradation. For example, the creationists admit the existence, even today, of such uncivilized people, with a Stone Age culture. Some of such uncivilized men, with a Stone Age culture, who were the survivors of the global flood, have settled in the Middle East when the waters retreated, besides Mount Ararat. Their occupations were pottery, agriculture, the domestication and husbandry of animals (the first domesticated animal has been the sheep, used for making clothing, for food and for religious sacrifices), the use of metals, wood, and clay. In a short time span, urbanization takes place, civilization appears, life lead in society.³⁶ The first cities appeared in ancient Mesopotamia.

Man could not have evolved from the ancestor of anthropoid monkeys, as evolutionists claim, because such a common ancestor was never found and there were found fossil remains of modern man in much older period than the period in which the supposed ancestor had lived.³⁷ Man could not have had as his ancestors the monkeys, only on the basis that evolutionists have discovered that, due to alimentation and life, these are similar to man. Therefore, there is no objective proof. Man was always man, there are no intermediary forms between man and the other species.

³⁵ The theory of evolution believes that primitive man was brutal and ignorant, he lived in caves, hunted animals and picked fruit. Since the Mesolithic and the Copper Era, he gradually developed a primitive agriculture with the purpose to reach to the stage of civilization and social organization.

³⁶ "We know now that in the year 7500 before Christ, the population of the Middle East, had developed a cultural level, marked by the production of plants and animals in farming villages by cohabitation." Străinescu, *Creacionismul științific*, 112.

³⁷ The types of fossils of the progressive evolution of the human species are: Ramapithecus (a primate considered the most remote direct ancestor of man, that had walked in a semi-vertical position and had a jawbone similar to man's), Australopithecus and Homo Habilis (the ancestors of modern man due to their walk similar to that of man. In Ethiopia was discovered the skeleton of Lucy, a 30 years old adult Australopithecus female, with a height of 1.1 meters), Homo Erectus (fossils including the Java Man, Peking Man, Heidelberg Man and Meganthropus. It is supposed that it was a man, with vertical walk, but degenerated due to marriage between relatives, influence of environment and bad alimentation), Neanderthal Man (due to its high cranial capacity it was similar to modern man, it admired flowers, painted, modeled tools, communicated through symbols, had religious practices) and modern man.

All that scientific creationism claims appears in The Book of Genesis: the creation of the basic elements of the physical cosmos: space, matter and time (Earth, sky, the beginning), the creation of living beings and the creation of man in the image of the Creator. Only God can create and His acts are always purposeful, man can only assemble, being “God’s administrator”.³⁸ The book of Genesis is “the book of all the generations of ancient patriarchs”,³⁹ that describes the origin and early history of mankind.⁴⁰ The inexistence of evolution can be seen in the fact that God created man since the very beginning as a completely developed, mature being, without any evolution from more simple to more complex forms: Adam and Eve, the firstly created people, were mature since the beginning of creation. Sin appeared when God’s word was doubted, and since then man will have known death.⁴¹ The biblical model claims that creation took place in six days,⁴² during which God has created Earth, the celestial bodies, the atmosphere, lithosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere, as well as the forms of existence contained in them. In the seventh day, God has blessed creation and rested.

Evolution is incompatible with the omnipotence of God (because He has created the world rapidly, not in millions of years), with His omniscience (the history of evolution talks of whole species disappearing, of mutations, not of progress), with his purpose (He would not have wasted His time with creations lacking purpose that will have had disappeared),⁴³ with His love towards His creation (diseases, natural selection, death). The cataclism or global flood could not have been local or minor, because if the waters would not have risen above the tip of mount Ararat, as it is said in the Bible, then the role of Noah’s Ark vanishes, together with that of the flood itself: people could have just went to other areas and waited the flood to pass.

³⁸ Morris, *Creționismul Științific*, 223.

³⁹ *Ibidem*, 217.

⁴⁰ “They are not just some old traditions, transmitted from mouth to mouth from one generation to another, but are really information direct written by eyewitnesses, people who knew, observed and recorded in writing things, in so far as they occurred.” *Ibidem*.

⁴¹ “Cursed is the ground because of you; for dust you are and to dust you will return.” *Genesis* 3: 11-19.

⁴² The word *Yom* signifies both a daytime and a long period of time. The proof that if creation is about living rather than age appears certain statements in the Bible: “With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day” 2 Peter 3: 8, “God called the light «day», and the darkness he called «night». And there was evening, and there was morning-the first day.” Genesis 1:5 On the seventh day God has rested, has blessed and sanctify his creation. He cannot do these things in the present Era. The verb is in the past, not in the present (“has rested”, not “He rests”).

⁴³ For example, evolutionists take into consideration the existence of the age of dinosaurs.

Conclusion

The results of the creationists work to prove the scientificity of creationism on the basis of the theory presented in these pages, as well as the introduction of this model, besides the evolutionist one, in school curricula, have seen their reward. During the seventies, the United States Constitution allowed for these two models to be taught in schools without favoring any of them, but in 1982 there has been a trial, in Arkansas, where the judge decided that creationism should not be taught in schools since it is not science, but religion. This decision is based on the faulty arguments raised by Larry Laudan:

a) Creationism is not science, since is not based on the workings of natural laws.

This is false, the absence of a natural law does not exclude creationism from the field of science, as Darwinism was not excluded although the laws of heredity in natural selection were not known.

b) Creationism cannot be verified or questioned.

This claim is also false, since most of the creationist claims have been tested scientifically. For example, the theory that the age of planet Earth is of only 6000-10000 years has been tested and rejected. There are, in any theory, arguments that cannot be tested. There must be a degree of dogmatism in any theory in order that it may develop. One has to exclude something from being taught in schools only when it is something harmful, not when it is supposed that it is not scientific.

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